

May 19, 1975

SENATOR SYAS: Well who was it that made the statement on the floor here this morning ... said in order to get corporations to support 589 we need this amendment. Or something like that?

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Syas, let me make it clear that since last Friday I've been in the corn fields till ... except for sleep. No one has contacted me about anything I've done.

SENATOR SYAS: I didn't say you said it. I said who was it.

SENATOR WARNER: I know you didn't, I just threw that in as surplus. The ... I indicated a concern. I think 589 must have 33 votes. I have a concern that with 123 coupled with 589 the way it stands, it may be difficult. Maybe it won't be, but the point is that it should be tested or determined now and not over on Final Reading. I would think, Senator Syas, that if we adopt Senator Lewis' amendment then the bill could pass intact. I would hope that there would be no problem with 30 votes. I think there would be no one fighting it anywhere. There are several things in there that individuals wanted then, particularly the separation of the sales tax from the corporate tax. That was a big concern of many members.

SENATOR SYAS: I was disturbed by the insinuation. Even though I have great respect for corporations and I think it's the American way of life. They're very necessary. I wouldn't do anything to harm them. At the same time I didn't want the statement to live and say that the corporations, in order to get their support for something, you had to do a certain thing. I don't think ... maybe the corporations are running it. I don't know. I didn't like the statement at all. It didn't ring too well with me.

One other thing. This is not a question. Of course you can answer that if you want to. I mean if you thought it was a question. Go ahead.

SENATOR WARNER: I was just going to say that I concur with the thought. I have the same thought that we're not responding to the corporations as such. My concern is that the system is reasonably well balanced. I think the package, with the adoption of the Lewis amendment, is reasonably well balanced between all sources of revenue, Senator Syas. It's not ... obviously if some in this body feel it's unbalanced they might not support it. That wouldn't necessarily mean they're responding to any special interest.

SENATOR SYAS: OK. I just have one other statement. That's not about corporations or income tax, or anything directly right at the moment. As long as we stand up here, we've had three hours of it now almost. We'll go through this cave of the winds every day. We can't make up our mind. We're erratic. We have a lot of revenue bills on the ... that we passed in these bills. We have